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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Egypt

SUBJECT University of Alexandria/Attitudes of Students

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There were approximately eight thousand students at the University of Alexandria, 400 of whom were foreign students. The faculty members were Italian, German, Irish and Egyptian. The British faculty members had been removed after Nagib came into power. The standard of education is poor, but since Nagib came into power it is improving. This improvement is the result of the change in attitude of the students. Before Nagib, the students did not have the right attitude. With few exceptions there was no serious study. There was a lack of discipline, and at times students would openly defy instructors. The general thinking in Alexandria was that all people were sincerely behind Nagib. This had a great reaction on the students at the university. Some semblance of discipline began to appear. Inasmuch as Nagib is a moderate Moslem, the religious extremists were causing some difficulties. The respect for Nagib was strong enough to prevent the extremists from becoming anything greater than nuisances, however.

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very little Communism among the workers and servants. I was surprised at the attitudes of these people. They were not like Arab workers and servants had been pictured to me. These people dis-liked the British but were not resentful of anyone else. There was possibly a little Communism in students and the faculty of the university, but I do not believe that even these people were Communists at heart. The people, and particularly the students, need a leader and the new regime appears area though it is going to help supply this need.

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